

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST  
Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District  
Lake Fork Cattle Allotment  
2018 Annual Operating Instructions**

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Season</u>
Mick Fieldsted	66	June 21 to September 21
Shane Gardner	62	June 21 to September 21
Ute Tribal Enterprises	<u>55*</u>	June 21 to September 21
Total Herd Size	183	June 21 to September 21

\*The Tribe will also run an additional 50 head in the Bear Wallow unit from Petty Mountain Allotment.

**Lake Fork**

<b>Unit Name</b>	<b>Sequence</b>	<b>Dates of Use</b>	<b>Allowable Use</b>
Reseeded	1 <sup>st</sup>	6/21 – 7/21	50%
Brown Duck*	2nd	7/22– 8/20	40%*
Raspberry Draw	3rd	8/21– 9/21	50%
Willow Bottoms	3rd	8/21– 9/21	50%
Frog Ponds	4th	9/3 – 9/21	50%

\*40% use for High Uintas Wilderness.

**Bear Wallow – Ute Tribe**

Bear Wallow*		6/21 – 9/21	50%
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\*Bear Wallow will serve as an on-off unit.

The dates above are to be used as guidelines. Livestock will enter and graze the Reseeded unit first. When 50% utilization is met cattle will be moved to the Brown Duck units. The Willow Bottoms and Raspberry Draw unit will be grazed third during the month of August. The Frog Ponds unit will be grazed last. Cattle will leave the allotment when utilization standards are met or on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. As stated above, allowable use is 50% in upland forage areas in most units. In the Brown Duck unit, allowable use is 40%. A 4” stubble height of riparian forage species (i.e. sedges) shall be left in riparian forage areas (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows) in the Frog Ponds and Reseeded Units. A 6” stubble height in riparian areas will be left in the Brown Duck and Willow Bottoms units. Notable key riparian areas on the allotment include Frog Pond meadows, Willow Bottoms, Bear Wallow wet areas, and wilderness stringer meadows. When allowable use is met in the key areas of each unit, cattle will be moved to the next scheduled unit.

It is the permittees responsibility to gauge utilization on each unit. A range employee will regularly visit the allotment to monitor permit compliance, forage utilization, and range improvements. Exceeding allowable use standards is not permitted. If compliance is not met, permittees will be sent notices of non-compliance and associated requirements to address the violation(s).

Grazing fees will be \$1.41 per head month this year. Fees must be paid through Lockbox collection procedures before livestock will be authorized to enter the National Forest. It can take two to three week for payment to go through Lockbox so please pay your bill well in advance of your on date.

### **Allotment Meeting Notes**

A meeting was held on April 16, 2018 at Altonah with Mick Fieldsted, Wes Gardner, Darryl Sorensen and Sandy Kaminski present. The following items were discussed:

1. Drought conditions were discussed. Forage conditions will be monitored and livestock numbers or season of use will be adjusted as needed. Permittees need to watch utilization closely and move cattle before 50% use is reached.
2. New Forest Service policy for requesting seasonal extension of grazing season was discussed. Requests must be submitted in writing to the District Ranger for review and decision.
3. The upper fence between the Reseeded pasture and dam area needs to be repaired before livestock enter the allotment. The FS will work on the horse pasture section.
4. The Lower Raspberry spring needs to be worked on and the trough reset.
5. The permittees, in the future, want to install a trough about midway down Raspberry Draw to help distribute cattle in the unit. The source would come from the upper pond near the head of the draw. A float would be put in the trough to control the water flow.
6. A fence separating the Willow Bottoms and Frog Ponds units is needed to keep cattle in their assigned unit. The fence would extend from above the Farnsworth Canal and run north and tie in to an existing fence. The analysis for this project is expected to be complete this summer.
7. The Ute Tribe will use Bear Wallow as an on-off unit in conjunction with their adjacent rangelands.
8. The forest boundary cattle guard needs to have the dirt washed out from under it and the wings repaired. Cattle are walking across the wings.
9. Permittees requested an extension of the Aspen Waterline from the Reseed Unit into the upper Frog Pond unit. It would require about 0.5 miles of pipe and one trough. They would also like to lay a new line to the trough below the horse pasture.
10. The bottom is splitting in the Aspen waterline Trough #1 and will need to be replaced soon.
11. Sandy discussed the Lake Fork Vegetative improvement project which is currently being analyzed. The permittees suggested the forested area west of the trailhead and north of Paint Mine road be open to fire wood gathering to help clear out the down and standing dead trees rather than burning it. They would like to install the proposed Willow Bottom pasture fence prior to the project being implement so they can better manage their livestock and avoid areas being treated as needed.
12. Forest Plan revision and range hot topics meeting were discussed. Notes from this meeting can be found on the Ashley National Forest web page.
13. Sage Grouse Management Plan implementation was discussed. Adjustments were made to the habitat map this year based on field reviews. The Lake Fork allotment is not within an occupied Lek Buffer nor does it contain Habitat Management Areas.

## Allotment Improvements

Improvement responsibilities will be as follows. Developments must be maintained before the cattle will be allowed to enter the allotment. A range technician may randomly inspect improvements prior to and during the grazing season to determine permit compliance. If compliance is not met, permittees will be sent notices of non-compliance and associated requirements to address the violation(s).

### **Range Improvement Checklist**

<b>Responsible Permittee</b>	<b>Improvement #</b>	<b>Improvement Name</b>
Mick Fieldsted	3506	Raspberry Draw Trough
Shane Gardner		Raspberry Drift Fence
Shane Gardner	3173	Frog Ponds Fence
Shane Gardner	3126	Lake Fork Reseeded Fence
Mick Fieldsted	3516	Aspen Waterline
Mick Fieldsted	3116	Brown Park Drift Fence
Mick Fieldsted	3516	Aspen Waterline
Mick Fieldsted	3116	Brown Park Drift Fence
Ute Cattle Enterprises	3048	Bear Wallow #1
Ute Cattle Enterprises	3503	Bear Wallow #2
Ute Cattle Enterprises	3111	Lake Fork-Pigeon Water Drift Fence
Ute Cattle Enterprises	3149	Lake Fork Boundary (canal to Bear Wallow)
Lake Fork Rotation	3115	Moon Lake Rec. Fence-pasture to C.G.
Lake Fork Rotation	3115	Moon Lake Rec Fence-dam to pasture
Lake Fork Rotation	3149	Lake Fork Boundary (ranch to canal)
Lake Fork Rotation	3159	Association Pasture-Lake Fork Canyon
Lake Fork Association	3202	Lake Fork Cattle Corral

## Multiple Use Considerations

A concentrated effort is being made to control Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Whitetop, Giant Whitetop, Russian Knapweed and other noxious weeds throughout the Roosevelt and Duchesne Ranger Districts, along with Duchesne and Uintah counties. Your help in controlling weeds is needed. If you find any of the above listed weeds, please report the location to Sandy Kaminski.

All hay and straw transported onto the Forest must be tagged as Certified Noxious Weed-Free as directed by Forest Service Order #04-00-097. Noncompliance with this closure order will result in a citation.

## Actual Use Record

The actual use record and maintenance report included with these operating instructions **needs to be filled out and returned immediately following the grazing season**. If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, contact Sandy Kaminski at (435) 781-5221 or cell (435) 790-7011. Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Kristy Groves  
District Ranger

**2018 Actual Use Record**

ALLOTMENT NAME Lake Fork

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK GRAZED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ENTERED NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

DATE LEFT NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

RECORD OF USE BY UNITS WITHIN ALLOTMENT (AS SHOWN ON MAP)

Unit Name	Sequence	Dates Used	
		From	To
Reseeded	1st		
Brown Duck*	2nd		
Raspberry Draw	2nd		
Willow Bottoms	3rd		
Frog Ponds	4th		

LOSSES: NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_ CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Include needed range improvements and proposed changes in annual plan of use)

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